

# RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTIONS

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Vol. XXI

April, 1928

No. 2

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Chessmen Used by General Nathanael Greene When in Camp  
During the War of the Revolution

*(Potozomut Greene Collection, Museum of the Rhode Island  
Historical Society)*

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Issued Quarterly

## CONTENTS

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	PAGE
Objects associated with Nathanael Greene . . .	41
John Waite, silversmith, By William Davis Miller . . . . .	45
Defenders of Providence during King Philip's War By Howard W. Preston . . . . .	56
Notes . . . . .	62
Roger Williams' Letter owned by Frederick S. Peck	63
Treasurer's Report . . . . .	65
Colonial Heraldry by Howard M. Chapin, (illustrated by George E. Nerney) . . . .	69

RHODE  
HISTORICAL



ISLAND  
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CLAUDE R. BRANCH, *President*  
HOWARD W. PRESTON, *Secretary*

GILBERT A. HARRINGTON, *Treasurer*  
HOWARD M. CHAPIN, *Librarian*

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### The Potowomut Greene Collection

Objects associated with General Greene, the Marquis de Lafayette, and General Washington, recently presented to the Society.

Under the provisions of the will of the late Katherine C. Greene (Mrs. W. Maxwell Greene) a number of interesting objects associated with Nathanael Greene, with Washington, and with Lafayette, to be called the Potowomut Greene Collection, have been presented to the Rhode Island Historical Society, where they will be on permanent exhibition as a heritage of the public and a memorial to these three illustrious generals of the American Revolution.

In addition to their association value, many of these objects have an intrinsic historical value, being illustrative of the type in use or made in America at the time of the Revolution.

The three chessmen, a knight and two pawns, illustrated on the cover of this issue of the *Collections*, were used by Nathanael Greene while in camp during the Revolution. Chess has for centuries been the favorite game of great generals, and Greene was no exception to this rule. These chessmen are made of bone. The knight and one pawn were left white, the natural color of the material, and the other pawn was painted green, the



color of the opponent pieces. Very few chessmen, known to have been in use in America as early as the Revolution, are still extant.



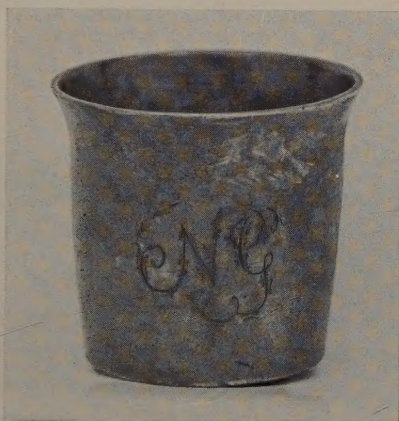
Pewter Plate

Presented by Governor Samuel Ward  
to General Nathanael Greene

Several other objects are associated with General Greene's military life; some fragments of his epaulets, a ring that was attached to his watch, a silver cup and spoon, a pewter plate, a cloth purse, and an ink bottle. These objects were carried by Greene as part of his camp equipage.

The silver cup bears the initials "N.G." on the side, and the inscription "N. Greene" on the bottom, although the final "e" of the name is a later addition. The maker's mark is "I.E.," Joseph Edwards of Boston. The silver spoon is marked "N.G.," and the maker's mark is "T.A." in script, the mark of Thomas Arnold, the Newport silversmith.

The pewter plate was given to General Greene by Governor Samuel Ward, and bears a crest said to be the Ward crest. The



Silver Cup

Probably Made by Joseph Edwards of Boston  
Part of General Greene's Camp Equipment During  
the Revolutionary War

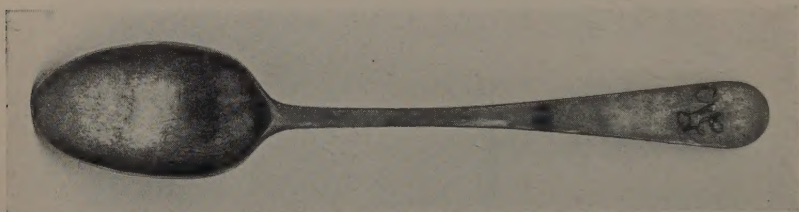
device is a *lion's head erased, collared*. This crest is not listed under the name Ward by Burke nor Fairbairn, and it differs from the crest a *griffin's head*, that appears on the tombstone of Governor Richard Ward, 1767, the father of Governor Samuel Ward. This plate bears the inscription: "A part of the Camp furniture of Gen. Nathaniel Greene, of the revolutionary Army."

The purse, carried by General Greene, is made of chamois, and bears the initial "N" embroidered on one side and a floral design on the other. The lacquered ink bottle, carried by Gen-

eral Greene, is of Chinese design, and was doubtless made in the Far East.

The collection contains two knee buckles set with stones, which were owned and worn by General Greene. These buckles were given by his youngest daughter, Mrs. Shaw, to his niece-in-law, Mrs. Margaret Greene, widow of John Ward Greene.

There is also a lock of General Greene's hair, mounted under glass, in a gold pin set with stones. It was given by Mrs. John Ward Greene to Judge Richard Ward Greene. The custom of preserving hair in rings and pins was very common in the late



Silver Spoon

Made by Thomas Arnold of Newport, Part of General Greene's  
Camp Equipment During the Revolutionary War

eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, and this collection includes some locks of hair of various members of Lafayette's family. These locks of hair are beautifully braided into laced designs, and are mounted under glass in a gold pin consisting of a brooch with three pendants. These four reliquaries are engraved respectively with the initial of the first name of the girl, whose hair each contains. These locks of hair were given to Mrs. Shaw.

There are two other articles with Lafayette associations. One is a card case brought from Paris by General Lafayette, and given by him to Mrs. Shaw. It seems to be Italian leather work.

The other article is a napkin, which was given by General Lafayette to Mrs. Margaret Greene, widow of John Ward Greene, at the breakfast table at La Grange, Lafayette's home in France, at the close of her visit there. The napkin bears the



notation in ink "M. Greene. Lafayette, 1827" and the embroidered letters "L.B.F."

A silk ribbon, that was worn (presumably by some member of the Greene family) "at the time when Gen. Washington was hailed as the 'Conquering Hero,'" brings to mind a vivid picture of Washington.

## John Waite, Silversmith

BY WILLIAM DAVIS MILLER

John Waite, the youngest son of Benjamin and Abigail (Hall) Waite, was born in or near the village of Wickford, in the township of North Kingstown, Rhode Island, in 1742.<sup>1</sup> His great grandfather, Samuel, son of Thomas of Portsmouth, Rhode Island<sup>2</sup>, was one of the original landholders in this township, having been granted land in the Quidnesset Purchase in the year 1663.<sup>3</sup> How long John Waite lived in Wickford is unknown but it is reasonably certain that he spent his early years there. In 1750 his brother, Benjamin, went to South Kingstown, where, styling himself "Benjamin Waitt, Practitioner of Physick of North Kingstown," he purchased two tracts of land from one Azrikam Pierce situated at what has since been known as Waite's Corner. Here Dr. Waite made his home and it was to his house that his younger brother probably came while learning his trade under that master craftsman, Samuel Casey, whose house and workshop were but a few miles distant.<sup>4</sup>

However, no mention is made of John Waite in the records until his marriage at which date he certainly was a resident of South Kingstown, for Dr. Joseph Torrey, of that township, has made the following entry in his book of marriages:

"John Weight & Margeret Sheffield, both of this Town were Lawfully Married, Sept. 13, 1767."<sup>5</sup>

On April 13, 1769, "John Waite . . . silversmith, of South Kingstown" purchased from Elisha Reynolds "one Quarter of an acre, be ye same more or less, with a Dwelling House thereon

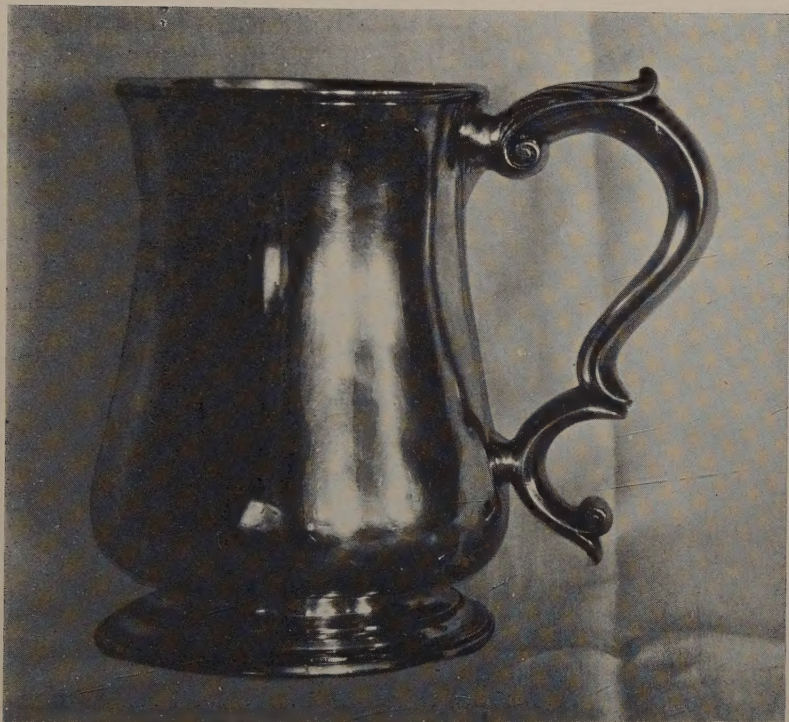


Creamer by John Waite

standing.”<sup>6</sup> This house and land were situated on the south side of the highway leading to the westward through the village of Little Rest (now Kingston) and nearly opposite to the present post office. It was in the basement of this old house that Waite worked and here he had his shop until the time of his death.<sup>7</sup>

With the coming of the Revolution, John Waite began to busy himself with interests outside of his workshop. He was one of the petitioners to the Assembly for a charter for an independent company of militia under the name of the “Kingston Reds.”<sup>8</sup> The charter was granted in the October Session, 1775,<sup>9</sup> and within less than one year Waite had become Captain and remained in command until May of the year 1799.<sup>10</sup> The Reds saw active service under Waite in January, 1776, and again in May of the same year. In 1775 also he was appointed one of the enlisting officers for King’s County.<sup>11</sup> John Waite is several times mentioned as “Colonel,” but of what regiment or for what special duties is not known.

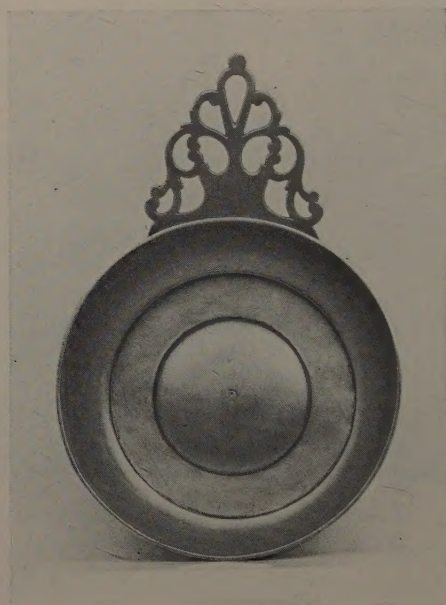




Mug by John Waite  
(Courtesy of Bernon E. Helmé, Esq.)

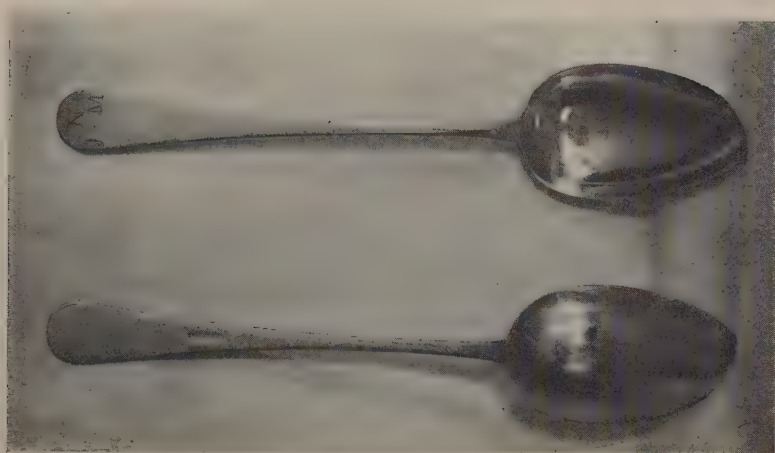
After the close of the Revolution, while still retaining command of the Kingston Reds, Waite was chosen for positions of judicial authority. In May, 1787, he was elected as the Fifth Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, but for reasons now unknown he declined.<sup>12</sup> Nine years later he was again elected to the Bench, this time as a Justice of the Common Pleas of Washington County and this time he accepted and retained this position until 1799,<sup>13</sup> the same year that he resigned as commander of the Kingston Reds. He was a Justice of the Peace from 1791 to 1796 and from 1799 until his death on October 19, 1817.<sup>14</sup>

In the publication of the Walpole Society, *A List of Early American Silversmiths and Their Marks*,<sup>15</sup> there is listed, in addition to John Waite, one "Jonathan Waite, Wickford, R. I. 1730-1822." A careful survey of the records of the towns of North and South Kingstown has failed to reveal the existence of such a person, either as a silversmith or as a contemporary of John Waite; nor does the Census of Rhode Island of 1774



Porringer by John Waite

include such a name in either township. In the face of these facts and in the absence of any conclusive proof to the contrary, it would appear reasonably certain that Johnathan Waite and John Waite were one and the same person. John Waite had a brother William, 1730-1826,<sup>16</sup> who was also a silversmith and it is possible that these dates were confused with the supposed Johnathan. William Waite is listed in the authority cited, but no dates are given.



Spoons by John Waite  
 (Courtesy of Bernon E. Helme, Esq.)

In the working of silver John Waite was not such a craftsman as was his master, Samuel Casey,<sup>17</sup> but this may be well attributed to the lack of opportunity rather than that of lack of ability. The examples of his work which are extant to-day, which do not include any large or elaborate pieces, evidence care in workmanship and beauty of design. He combined, unfortunately, perhaps, but probably of necessity, the trade of locksmith with that of silversmith and it would appear from his accounts that the former was the more lucrative. This may account for the rather limited amount of silver which he produced. The following items taken at random from an account against Nathan Gardiner, Jr.,<sup>18</sup> serves to illustrate this:

"1779	To Balance Due on Ledger Page 24	0:8:8
June 8, 1785	To Mending Buckle & Making Shoe Clasps	0:1:8
Oct. 25, 1787	To Mending Lock	0:1:0
1790 April 18	To Mending 2 Keys	0:1:0
March 12, 1791	To Mending Warmingpan	0:3:0
1795 Oct. 26	To Mending Tea tongs	0:1:6

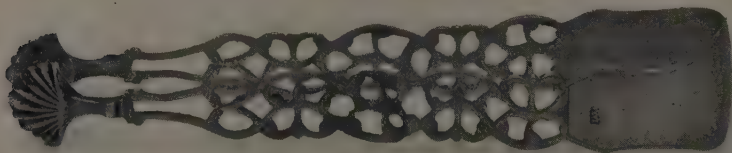


1798 Augst 31	To Slr Kneuckles for Malbone	0:6:0
1799 April 3	To Slr Thimble	0:3:0
Oct. 30	To Making Set Large Spoons	0:19:0
April 8, 1800	To pair Gold Ear Rings	0:6:0
	To Mending Punch Strainer	0:3:0"

*after Receiving old silver to work up  
for, Mrs. Potter, and Returning silver  
Wrought into Porrings & mending one.  
Remains Due to her 4<sup>2</sup> 1/2<sup>th</sup>.  
John Waite*

Waite probably commenced to work for himself before his marriage. There are no dates to base this assertion upon, other than the fact that his master, Casey, had disappeared by the end of 1770.<sup>19</sup> No bills or accounts which bear early dates have come to light, the receipt for the porringers reproduced<sup>20</sup> here, being undated and the earliest date on the Gardiner account being 1779, although referring to previous work. In connection with the receipt for the porringers, it is of interest to note that it was a common practice for the customers of a silversmith to provide the silver for him to work into the desired article.

John Waite's marks are given in the Walpole Society list as: (1) "I.WAITE," capitals in rectangle, and (2) "J.WAITE"



Sugar Tongs Attributed to John Waite

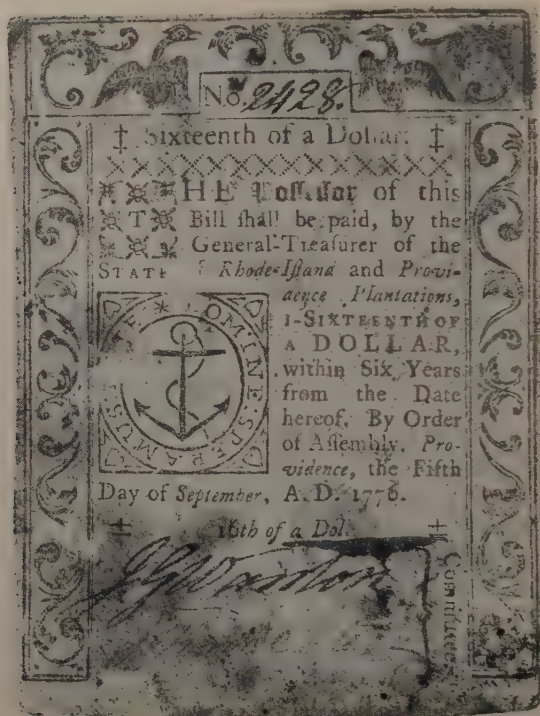
capitals in rectangle. The sugar tongs reproduced here, and which are attributed to Waite, are marked "I.W.," crude capitals in rectangle. There are no definite facts which may be produced to verify that mark as of Waite but there are, however, several reasons which may be advanced to substantiate it. In the first place "I.W." are certainly Waite's initials; secondly, the tongs are inscribed "E.R." and belonged to Elizabeth Reynolds and in the family of her descendents they have remained until a very recent date. Elizabeth was the daughter of Elisha Reynolds from whom Waite purchased his house and land at Little Rest. Would it not seem probable, therefore, that for such small pieces as the sugar tongs or for buckles, where Waite's larger mark could not well be employed, he would use one smaller and more condensed? As for the mark itself, it is



Mark Attributed to John Waite

not listed in the Walpole Society or Ensko lists,<sup>21</sup> but is in the catalogue of the Clearwater Collection and in *American Church Silver of the XVII and XVIII Centuries*, in both which instances it is unidentified.<sup>22</sup>

There is one evidence of Waite's work as an engraver. At the September session of the Assembly held in Providence in 1776, it was enacted that "66,670 dollars be immediately struck off in bills of credit," and it was further voted that Joseph Clarke, the General Treasurer, procure at the charge of the State, "new escutcheons and other such devices as may be necessary for printing said bills."<sup>23</sup> Clarke appointed John Waite to do this work and in the October session of the same year, Waite's account of seven pounds was ordered paid.<sup>24</sup> He had, therefore, the distinction of having engraved the first emission of paper money in Rhode Island in which the term "dollar" was



Bill of Credit  
For Which John Waite Engraved the Escutcheons and Devices

used and in which the "State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations" replaced the former term "Colony of Rhode Rhode Island."<sup>25</sup>

In the inventory of the "Estate of John Waite, deceased, Mathew Waite, administrator," the following silversmith's tools are listed:<sup>26</sup>

- One pr Shears to Cut Iron
- 1 pr bellows
- 5 Pair Copper moulds for casting
- 2 boxes with pewter patterns
- 3 boxes with Punches, chisels, etc.



1 Pr Scales & weights  
Spoon punches and pattern  
2 Spoon moulds  
Frame (of) Steel letter stamps  
4 Small Vises one large Vise  
One brass Lathe



Mark of John Waite

The following is a descriptive list of the examples of the work of John Waite, of which photographs are reproduced in this paper:

PORRINGER. Handle pierced in keyhole pattern. D.  $6\frac{1}{2}$  in. H.  $2\frac{7}{8}$  in.

Inscription. M P, (shaded block letters), on handle.

Mark: I.WAITE, (light Roman capitals), in rectangle, beneath handle.

This is one of the pair of porringers referred to in the receipt mentioned above. The Mrs. Potter referred to was Mary Perkins, the first wife of Elisha R. Potter of Little Rest. She was the widow of Joseph Perkins, the silversmith. The other porringer, similar in all details, is the property of Mr. Potter's granddaughter, Miss Mary LeMoine Potter. The porringer described is in the author's collection.

CREAMER. Pear-shaped; long lip with scalloped edge; scrolled handle; three feet, each in two sections. H. 4 in.

Inscription: D. C. (crude capitals), on base.

Mark: I.WAITE (roman capitals), in rectangle, on base. The lines of the letters of this mark are heavier than in the preceding, and it would appear that a different stamp had been used. (From the author's collection.)



Porringer by John Waite  
*(Courtesy of Bernon E. Helme, Esq.)*

**SUGAR TONGS.** Bow-shaped, arms with pierced design, scallop shell tips. L.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in.

Inscription: E. R. (shaded capitals), on top of hoop.

Mark: I W (crude capitals), in irregular rectangle, twice.  
 (From the author's collection.)

**MUG.** Bulbous; moulded and splayed base; double-scrrolled handle attached by posts; decorated thumb rest. H.  $4\frac{5}{8}$  in.

Mark: As in preceding, on base. (Property of Bernon E. Helme, Esq.)

**PORRINGER.** Handle pierced in keyhole pattern. D.  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in.

Inscription: <sup>N</sup>  
 J.T.M (block letters), on handle.

Mark: As in preceding, on base. (Property of Bernon E. Helme, Esq.)

SPOONS. Two. Ovoid bowl with drop; tip of handles rounded and slightly up-curved. L.  $8\frac{1}{2}$  in.

Inscription: J <sup>N</sup> M (block letters), on handle.

Mark: As in preceding, on reverse of handle. (Property of Bernon E. Helm, Esq.)

These spoons, together with the porringer and mug, were originally the property of John T. and Mary Nichols of South Kingstown, Rhode Island. The spoons have been in daily use for 110 years.

<sup>1</sup>Given as August 11, 1742, in *Waite Family of Rhode Island*, John Cassan Waite, ed., New York, 1904, p. 30. J. N. Arnold, *Vital Records of Rhode Island*, p. 109, also gives July 4, 1742. The latter date is believed to be correct, the former being that of baptism. There are various spellings of the name "Waite" in the old documents, often two variations appearing in the same deed.

<sup>2</sup>J. O. Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island*, pp. 404-405. The will of John Waite's grandfather, Samuel (Samuel<sup>2</sup>, Thomas<sup>1</sup>) is noted in Austin, p. 405. In this Samuel mentions his grandson, John, as the son of his deceased son, Benjamin.

<sup>3</sup>J. N. Arnold, ed., *Fones Records*, p. 25. His house was near Smith's Landing. *Narragansett Historical Register*, Vol. I, p. 319.

<sup>4</sup>*Land Evidence of South Kingstown*, Book 5, p. 204. January 23, 1750. Dr. Benjamin Waite, 1727-1817, was also a Baptist minister. Waite's Corner is west of West Kingston and south of Barber's Pond. See H. F. Walling, *Map of South Kingstown*, 1857. Dr. Waite's will is recorded in the *Probate Records of South Kingstown*, Book 2 (new), p. 179, wherein his brother, John, is mentioned. By tradition among his descendants, John Waite learned his trade under Casey.

<sup>5</sup>William Davis Miller, *Dr. Joseph Törrey and His Record Book of Marriages*, R. I. Historical Society, 1925, p. 18. His children were: Benjamin, John, Mathew, Abigail and Dorcas.

<sup>6</sup>*Land Evidence of South Kingstown*, Book 6, p. 489.

<sup>7</sup>This house was torn down by John's son, Matthew, in 1819, this fact being mentioned in a contemporary letter, who built a new house on the old foundations, which still stands. One of the foundation stones bears the following inscription: W <sup>C</sup> S 1735. This may be the date of the building of the original house. *The Providence Gazette*, November 8, 1817, contains a notice of John Waite's death.

<sup>8</sup>*Rhode Island Colonial Records* and Joseph Jencks Smith, *Civil and Military Lists of Rhode Island*.

<sup>9</sup>*Idem*.

<sup>10</sup>*Idem*.

<sup>11</sup>*Idem*.

<sup>12</sup>*Idem*.

<sup>13</sup>*Idem*.

<sup>14</sup>*Idem*.



<sup>15</sup>By Hollis French, p. 119.

<sup>16</sup>He was also a Baptist minister. He lived in Little Rest from 1757 to 1760. He later removed to Cambridge, N. Y.

<sup>17</sup>See William Davis Miller, *Samuel Casey, Silversmith*, R. I. Historical Society Collections, Vol. XXI, No. 1, pp. 1-14.

<sup>18</sup>Original from the papers of the late Hon. Elisha R. Potter, of Kingston, R. I.

<sup>19</sup>See note 17.

<sup>20</sup>Through the courtesy of Bernon E. Helme, Esq., of Kingston, R. I., who owns the original.

<sup>21</sup>Stephen G. C. Ensko, *American Silversmiths and Their Marks*, New York, 1927.

<sup>22</sup>C. Louise Avery, *American Silver of the XVII and XVIII Centuries*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 1920, and *American Church Silver*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 1909. In E. Alfred Jones, *Old Silver of American Churches*, 1913, two references to the mark I W are made, but in each case the mark includes also a scroll or eagle below the letters and would appear to refer to a Southern silversmith.

<sup>23</sup>J. R. Bartlett, ed., *Rhode Island Colonial Records*, Vol. VII, pp. 611-612.

<sup>24</sup>*Ibid.*, Vol. VIII, p. 16.

<sup>25</sup>Elisha R. Potter and Sidney S. Rider, *Bills of Credit and Paper Money*, R. I. Historical Tracts, No. 8, pp. 104-105. Of this emission only five existing examples have been traced; two copies of the one-eighteenth dollar (one in the collection of the R. I. Historical Society and reproduced in this paper); one copy of the one-eighth dollar and two copies of the one-half dollar. The bills were printed by John Carter, printer, of Providence.

## The Defenders of Providence during King Philips War

BY HOWARD W. PRESTON

The recommendation of Governor Pothier in his recent message to the General Assembly that a tablet be erected in the State House memorializing the twenty-seven defenders of Providence in King Philips War recalls an important episode in the history of the town.

From the early stages of this war the Rhode Island settlers on the mainland suffered, though supposedly on friendly terms with their Indian neighbors. Roger Williams reported June, 1675, that the Narragansett Indians "committed many robberies on the English houses" (*Narragansett Club*, Vol. VI p. 371) and a few days later, July 7, writes "the Indians have burned

many farm houses about Providence and wounded 3 of our men" (*R. I. H. S. Pub.* VIII, p. 154).

After the Great Swamp Fight, which destroyed the Narragansett stronghold, these Indians laying aside all pretense of friendship, made common cause with King Philip, and the Rhode Island settlements were subject to attack.

In reply to a plea for help from the mainland towns, Warwick and Providence, the General Assembly at Newport sent a note declaring "this colony is not of ability to maintain sufficient garrisons for the security of our out plantations. Therefore we think and judge it most safe for the inhabitants to repair to this island, which is most securest. Newport and Portsmouth inhabitants have taken such care that those of the colony that come and cannot procure land to plant for themselves and families relief, may be supplied with land by the towns; and each family so wanting a liberty shall have a cow kept upon the commons; but if any of you think yourselves of ability to keep your interest of houses and cattle and will adventure your lives we shall not positively oppose you therein." (*R. I. Col. Rec.* II, p. 533.)

Accordingly most of the inhabitants of Warwick and Providence took refuge on the island of Rhode Island, which was considered as protected from Indian attack from the mainland by a patrol of boats.

A few settlers of Providence reluctant to abandon their all, remained there in an endeavor to save as much as possible of the town.

These men saved the settlement. Except for their devotion the town would have been obliterated. Probably, as in the case of some Massachusetts towns burned by the Indians, many of the settlers would have failed to return even if the town had been rebuilt on the same site.

These men who remained were by vote of the town rewarded for their heroism, by the proceeds from the sales of two lots of Indian captives, whose services were sold for a limited period as a punishment for the participation of themselves or their tribe in the war.

The names of these defenders appear in the town records not as on a roll of honor, but because they were entitled to a share in the Indian captives.

The picturesque record is worthy of careful attention.

"At a towne meeting Lawfully called by Cap: Fenner Magistrate ye 14th of Aug; 1676 (so calld) before Thomas Fields howse under a Tree by ye Water side.

Capt; Fenner chosen Moderatour

A motion was made to enquire after ye Towne bookes but it was deferd untill ye Busines of disposing of ye Indians (for wch ye Towne met) was dispatched.

A list of 27 names of such as staid & went not away, was presented, unto whome these Indians should be due, ye names were Mr. Roger Williams, Nath; Waterman, Tho: Fenner, Henry Ashton, John Morey, Dan: Abbot, James Olney, Val: Whitman, Jo: Whiple, Snr. John Angel, James Angel, Tho: Arnold, Rich: Pray, John Pray, Ephrim Pray, Abraham Man, Jos: Woodward, Tho: Field, Zach: Field, Ed: Bennet, Tho: Clements, Wm: Lancaster, Wm: Hopkins, Wm. Hawkings, John Rodes, Sam: Winsor, Tho: Wallen." (*Early Records Town of Prov. XV, p. 151-2.*)

The length of the terms of service varied with the age of the Indians.

Indians under five years of age were to serve until thirty; those above five and under ten were to serve until the twenty-eighth year of their age; those from ten to fifteen years of age to serve until the twenty-seventh year of their age; those from fifteen to twenty to serve until the twenty-sixth year of their age; those from twenty to thirty to serve eight years; those above thirty to serve seven years "or as they can be sold." (*Early Records XV, 154.*)

The sale of both the first and second lot of Indians was intrusted to Captain Arthur Fenner, William Hopkins and John Whipple, Jr. (*Early Records XV, 153.*)

By a vote of the town at the same meeting the distribution of the proceeds of the sale of the first lot of Indians was placed in the hands of Roger Williams, Thomas Harris, Thomas Field,



Thomas Angel and John Whipple, Jr. (*Early Records* XV, 152.)

This committee made some changes in the list of participants omitting John Rhodes, probably a clerical error as the shares were apparently thirty in number. Captain Arthur Fenner and William Harris were added to the list and each granted a whole share in the distribution. Some men seem to have rendered less valuable services than others as the committee awarded only three-quarters of a share each to Richard Pray and Joseph Woodward and a half share to Thomas Walling. Half shares were also given to John Smith, the miller, Edward Smith, Samuel Whipple and Nelle (Eleazer?) Whipple, whose names do not appear on the first list. (*Early Records* XV, p. 154.)

This first sale included twenty-seven Indians sold principally for specie, though wool, Indian corn and clothing were accepted. The holder of each whole share received sixteen shillings in silver, six pounds of sheep's wool and about a yard and a quarter of coarse cloth (penniston). (*Early Records* XV, 157-8.)

The town took action regarding the distribution of the proceeds of the second lot of Indians at a meeting January 5, 1677, when "after many debates & difficulties how to accomodate this Distribucion it was Concluded to chose a Committee of five Men wch should meet at Dan: Abbots & receive & judge of every mans plea & accordingly setle ye Distribution; The Committee chosen (by paper) were Capt: Fenner, Jo Whipple Junr, Ed: Smith, Dan: Abbot & Roger Williams."

The participants in this division received sixteen shillings and four pence helf penny per share.

Despite the efforts of its defenders most of the houses were burned. The number of the houses destroyed in Providence has been variously estimated, as the contemporary accounts do not seem to agree.

A letter April 7, 1676, from the Council of the Massachusetts Bay to the Council of Connecticut regarding the movements of the Indians says "on ye 29 [the Indians] fell on Providence burnt not above 30 houses." (*Letter from the Council* p. 11.) This refers only to the second attack.

*A New and Farther Narrative of the State of New England* by N. S. dated Boston July 22, 1676, and printed the same year in London states, "On Wednesday they (the Indians) stormed Providence and consumed the greatest of the Houses" (*Narratives of the Indian Wars*, p. 86). This likewise refers to the second attack and shows the destruction of the larger portion of the houses left standing after the first attack.

William Harris August 12, 1676 sent a careful account of King Philips War to Sir Joseph Williamson. In this he does not mention the number of houses destroyed but merely says Philip "burnt some houses." Of the second account he says "The enemy hath burnt all ye houses in Warwick, all in Patuxet, And almoste all in providence, And ye rest of ye houses in ye Narraganset County alsoe." (*R. I. Hist. Soc. Coll.* X 174.)

Increase Mather in his *Brief History of the War* licensed to print December 2 1676 and printed in London, says "The next day (March 29) they burnt about thirty houses at the town called Providence." (*History of King Philip's War*, Drake ed. p. 132.)

This again is the second attack and agrees with the *Letter from the Council*.

Mary Pray of Providence in her letter "Jan. 6, 76" (77) to Captain Oliver of Boston speaks of "these 20 houses which now Remain of six scoer (score) and three besides our mill" and adds "We once were as Rich as any town within 40 miles of us Round about But now are the poorest of al towns." (*Further Letters on King Philip's War* p. 22-23.) This seems to give the results of all the Indian attacks during the War and probably includes not only the compact portion of the town but also the outlying houses.

The Rev. William Hubbard in his *History of the Indian Wars in New England* written probably in 1676 or early in 1677 as the Dedication is dated March 16 1677 says "they (the Indians) burnt the very next Day thirty houses in Providence in the Way toward Narhagenset." (Drake ed. I p. 181.) This again is the second attack. Later in this work in the addenda Hubbard

speaks of Providence "where were eighteen Houses burned June 28 1675. March 29 following fifty four Houses were there burned and most of the Rest as they were deserted by the Inhabitants with drawing to Road-Island." (Same II p. 46.)

The discrepancy in these accounts may be due to the amount of territory included.

The charred and blackened edges of the leaves of the early volumes of the Town Records bear witness to their narrow escape from destruction at this time.

There is in the Town Archives (Providence Town Papers 01135) a fragmentary record which states that "by ye late unhappy Warrs by ye Indians our Towne records have beene by ye said Indians Defaced and some of them lost."

The prominent part taken by Roger Williams in all these transactions shows the confidence of the town in his wisdom and ability.

Now nearly seventy-five years of age, after a long and strenuous career he might well have pleaded that the weight of years excused him from further service, and entitled him to a cosy chimney corner, if such could then be found in Providence Plantations.

Nevertheless Williams stayed by the Town. He served as Captain of the Train-Band, and the Colony in appointing Captain Fenner Commander of the Kings Garrison at Providence gave him authority "not eclipsinge Capt'n Williams power in the excise of the Traine Band there (*R. I. Col. Records II* 547.) He was one of the commissioners to place garrisons, and moderator of many of the meeting of the town during these times, besides serving on numerous committees.

The burning of his own house by the Indians in March, 1676, led to prompt action by the Council of Massachusetts Bay which passed the following resolution.

"Whereas Mr. Roger Williams stands at present under a sentence of Restraint from coming into this Colony yet considering how readily & freely at all tymes he hath served the English Interest in this time of warre with the Indians & manifested

his particular respects to the authority of this colony in several services desired of him & further understanding, how by the last assault of the Indians upon Providence his House is burned & himself in his old age reduced to an uncomfortable & disabled state Out of Compassion to him in this condition The Council doe Order and Declare that if the sayd Mr. Williams shall see cause or desire it he shall have liberty to repayr into any of or Towns for his security & comfortable abode during these Public Troubles, He behaving himself peaceably & inoffensively & not disseminating & venting any of his different opinions in matters of Religion to the dissatisfaction of any." (Mass. Archives X p. 233 fide Plymouth Co. Rec. X VI.)

This action shows that the leaders of Massachusetts did appreciate the services of Roger Williams in saving the neighboring colonies for many years from Indian attacks, if not from extermination.

## Notes

Mr. Frederick S. Peck has issued an attractive booklet containing photographic reproductions and type reprints of the George Washington letters in his collection.

*Antiques* for January, 1928, contains an article on *Early Cotton Printing in America* in which four of the illustrations are of objects in the museum of the Rhode Island Historical Society.

*A plat of the land of Capt. Henry Bull at Pettaquamscutt, Drawn by James Helme*, is the title of a leaflet issued by the Society of Colonial Wars in December. The Helme plat of 1729 is reproduced, accompanied by explanatory text and diagrams.

The January *Bulletin of the Newport Historical Society* contains an article on "The Old Easton Farm" by Miss M. E. Powel, notes upon Newport during the Revolution and on portraits painted by Feke.



8  
In my last I gave intimation of another Answer recd  
from the Sachins is this.  
First y<sup>t</sup> although they remember not any Agreements y<sup>t</sup>  
have passed about y<sup>r</sup> Natives yeading up their  
Hunting places, Advantages with in prescribed  
limits or yet, because Satisfactory Agreements  
may have bene unknown to them, between yo<sup>r</sup> Selves  
& y<sup>r</sup> Natives about you, they have sent for this man  
Wuttattaquagin (who lives most at Massachusetts with  
Cutshamoguen & hath not bene this 3 years with them,  
this man Wuttattaquagin hath promised to satisfie  
in Wampan, Beaver & Venison what it comes to.  
But he shews not y<sup>r</sup> Dammage can be so great, for  
thus he relates: Having laid his traps, intending day  
to tend them Cutshamoguen sent for him to be a guide  
to him in a hunting match about y<sup>r</sup> Bay where other  
Natives were ignorant. He went, yet sent a youth  
to view his traps, who sayth y<sup>t</sup> he saw y<sup>r</sup> English men  
loose 3 horses out of y<sup>r</sup> traps & rode away upon 2  
of them the third only was lamed.  
Upon this he desired Libertie to returne to y<sup>r</sup> Bay to  
enquire more perfectly the Dammage: & being not  
come back as yet they have this present sent againe  
for him.

Yet because they see not y<sup>t</sup> Wuttattaquagin, broke  
any knowne Covenant in laying his traps in y<sup>t</sup> place, nor  
wittingly wrought evil against y<sup>r</sup> English, they con-  
ceive it would be very faire & honorable in all Natives  
eyes y<sup>t</sup> it would please the English to make knowne as  
well their Moderation as their Justice in y<sup>r</sup> Case.  
And for themselves they resolve if this man should not  
be faythfull or Able to satisfie your demands they  
promise (upon persuasions & some offers of mine to them)  
to contribute themselves out of their owne & to  
draw in help, y<sup>t</sup> may in Wampan, Beaver & Venison  
make up the whole Summe before the next hunting be over.  
So craving Summe your soe acceptation of my good Service  
herein, or what ever els you shall please to use me in.

Residence 2<sup>n</sup>. 3. 1633  
my due respect to my honorable friends  
in the Court & y<sup>r</sup> rest of the Council

Yo<sup>r</sup> most unworthy servant  
Roger Williams

Letter Written by Roger Williams  
This Letter Was Recently Sold at Auction at the Anderson  
Galleries in New York and Is Now Owned by  
Mr. Frederick S. Peck, of Barrington, R. I.

The following persons have been elected to membership in the Society:

Mrs. Edward E. Arnold	Mr. H. Earle Kimball
Mr. James C. Collins	Mr. C. Prescott Knight, Jr.
Mr. Herbert R. Dean	Mrs. William Davis Miller
Miss Harriet C. Edmonds	Mrs. David S. Seaman
Mr. Hovey T. Freeman	Miss Ellen D. Sharpe
Dr. Frank T. Fulton	Mr. Oscar F. Stetson
Dr. George W. Gardner	Mr. Charles F. Thatcher
Mrs. Albert C. Tyler	

The Arkwright Mill sample book, a collection of some ninety samples of cloth, mounted in a small volume in 1816, for use as a guide to the weavers in the Arkwright Mill in Rhode Island, was recently presented to the Society by Mr. A. S. Gorham. It is one of the earliest collections, if not the earliest now extant, of samples of woven goods manufactured in America, dating as it does from the early days of the American textile industry. The historical importance of this collection can scarcely be overestimated.

The Bureau of Information, Secretary of State's Office, has just issued *Know Rhode Island, the Land of Roger Williams*, a pamphlet of 108 pages with two maps and numerous illustrations. It is a valuable handbook of information concerning the state, with historical and descriptive accounts of the different cities and towns. Special articles treat of education, industries, state government, agriculture, shell-fisheries, inland fisheries, flora, birds and game, and motor vehicle laws.

A little volume, *How Religious Liberty was written into the American Constitution*, by Col. Joseph Bondy, Director of Citizenship Training, emphasizes Rhode Island's leadership in establishing religious liberty and explains the reluctance of the state to adopt the Federal Constitution.

Colonel Bondy well stresses the distinction between religious toleration and religious freedom.

## Rhode Island Historical Society

## TREASURER'S REPORT

## INCOME ACCOUNT FOR YEAR 1927

## RECEIPTS

Annual Dues .....	\$2,150.00
Dividends and Interest.....	5,025.32
Rental of Rooms .....	195.00
State Appropriation .....	\$1,500.00
State Appropriation (for Warwick Records) .....	413.50
	<hr/> 1,913.50
Balance, January 1, 1927 .....	\$9,283.82

## EXPENDITURES

Binding .....	\$ 347.30
Books .....	677.27
Electric Light and Gas.....	53.80
Exhibitions .....	99.32
Expenses .....	168.38
Grounds and Building.....	280.47
Heating .....	1,050.00
Newspaper Account.....	34.00
Publication .....	837.58
Salaries .....	5,179.98
Supplies .....	216.20
Telephone .....	59.81
Water .....	8.00
	<hr/> \$9,012.11
Surplus Income Account .....	271.71
	<hr/> \$9,283.82

## STATEMENT OF CONDITION, DECEMBER 31, 1927

## ASSETS

Grounds and Building .....\$ 25,000.00  
Investments :

## BONDS

\$5,000 New York Edison Co., 6½s, 1941.....\$5,447.85  
4,000 Cedar Rapids Mfg. & Power Co., 5s, 1953.. 3,228.88  
3,000 Central Mfg. District..... 3,000.00  
3,000 Cleveland Elec. Illuminating Co., 5s, 1939.. 2,565.42  
1,000 Commonwealth Edison Co., 5s, 1943..... 965.25  
4,000 Government of Dominion Canada, 5s, 1952.. 4,003.91  
1,000 Western Electric Co., 5s, 1944..... 998.17  
300 United Electric Rys. Co., Prior Lien, 4s, 1946 231.27  
4,000 61 Broadway Bldg., 1st Mtge., 5½s, 1950... 4,000.00  
4,000 Minnesota Power & Light Co., 1st 5s, 1955.. 3,930.00  
4,000 Monongahela Valley Traction Co., 1st 5s,  
1942 ..... 3,685.00  
2,000 Ohio Power Co., 1st & Ref. 5s, 1952..... 1,974.00  
2,000 Narragansett Co., 5s, 1947..... 1,980.00  
2,000 Shell Union Oil Corporation, 5s, 1947..... 1,979.00  
2,000 Koppers Gas & Coke Co., 5s, 1947..... 1,962.50

## STOCKS

50 shs. New York Central Railroad.....\$3,645.12  
111 shs. Pennsylvania Railroad Co..... 7,188.45  
30 shs. Lehigh Valley Railroad Co..... 2,112.50  
6 shs. Lehigh Valley Coal Sales Co..... 241.85  
40 shs. Milwaukee Elec. Ry. & Light Co., Pfd.... 3,900.00  
64 shs. American Tel. & Tel. Co..... 8,023.61  
60 shs. Providence Gas Co..... 5,005.68  
15 shs. Providence National Bank }  
30 shs. Merchants' National Bank Bldg. } ..... 1,800.00  
45 shs. Blackstone Canal National Bank..... 1,050.00  
50 shs. Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Ry. Co.,  
Com. .... 6,168.75  
Cash on hand..... 79,087.21  
3,932.46  
\$108,019.67



## LIABILITIES

Equipment Fund .....	\$ 25,000.00
Permanent Endowment Fund:	
Samuel M. Noyes.....	\$ 12,000.00
Henry J. Steere.....	10,000.00
James H. Bugbee.....	6,000.00
Charles H. Smith.....	5,000.00
Charles W. Parsons.....	4,000.00
William H. Potter.....	3,000.00
Esek A. Jillson.....	2,000.00
John Wilson Smith.....	1,000.00
William G. Weld .....	1,000.00
Charles C. Hoskins.....	1,000.00
Charles H. Atwood.....	1,000.00
	<hr/>
	46,000.00
Publication Fund:	
Robert P. Brown.....	\$ 2,000.00
Ira B. Peck.....	1,000.00
William Gammell .....	1,000.00
Albert J. Jones.....	1,000.00
William Ely .....	1,000.00
Julia Bullock .....	500.00
Charles H. Smith.....	100.00
	<hr/>
	6,600.00
George L. Shepley Fund.....	5,000.00
Life Membership .....	5,150.00
Franklin Lyceum Memorial Fund.....	734.52
Book Fund .....	3,012.41
Reserve Fund .....	839.51
Revolving Publication Fund.....	1,080.00
Surplus .....	12,470.71
Surplus Income Account.....	2,132.52
	<hr/>
	\$108,019.67

## PRINCIPAL INCOME ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1927

## RECEIPTS

Sold 10 shs. Union Tank Car, Pfd. stock call @ 115.....	\$1,150.00
Deposit Industrial Trust Co. withdrawn.....	734.52
Sold \$1,000 Denver Gas & Elec. Co., 5s, 1949 called @ 105.....	1,050.00
Narragansett Elec. Lighting Co. warrants.....	6.00
Mortgage, Washington R. Prescott, paid.....	2,975.00
Sold \$1,000 Columbus Railway Power & Lt. Co. 5s, 1940 called @ 105 .....	1,050.00
Life Membership .....	50.00
Reserve Fund .....	287.75
Revolving Publication Fund.....	1,095.00
	<hr/>
	\$8,398.27
Balance, January 1, 1927.....	1,377.54
	<hr/>
	\$9,775.81

## PAYMENTS

Bought \$2,000 Ohio Power Co. 1st & Ref. 5s, 1952 @ 98½....	\$1,974.00
Bought 2,000 Narragansett Co., Coll. 5s, 1947 @ 99.....	1,980.00
Bought 2,000 Shell Union Oil Corporation, Deb. 5s, 1947 @ 98¾ & Bkge.....	1,979.00
Bought 2,000 Koppers Gas & Coke Co., 5s, 1947 @ 98⅞.....	1,962.50
Reserve Fund .....	65.37
Revolving Publication Fund.....	15.00
Balance, December 31, 1927.....	1,799.94
	<hr/>
	\$9,775.81

Respectfully submitted,

G. A. HARRINGTON, *Treasurer.*

Examined and found correct,  
January 9, 1928.

ADDISON P. MUNROE, *Chairman,*  
Auditing Committee.

## Colonial Heraldry

(Continued from page 40)

### · WARD



Governor Richard Ward of Rhode Island died in 1763 and his wife, Mary, in 1767, and an armorial gravestone marks their resting place. The arms are "A cross flory," with a crudely drawn griffin's head for a crest. Burke gives several Ward arms as "Azure a cross flory or," and various wolf's heads as crests, and Fairbairn gives "A griffin's head erased" as a Ward crest.

Richard Ward was son of Thomas Ward and grandson of John Ward of Newport, the immigrant, (*Her. Jour.* III:116). Henry Ward, Secretary of the Colony, used an armorial seal, "A cross flory," on a document dated 29 March, 1769 (*R. I. H. S. M.* XVI:73). A plate given by Gov. Samuel Ward to Gen. Nathanael Greene bears a crest said to be the Ward crest, but it is "A lion's head erased, collared." No such crest is given by Burke nor Fairbairn.

## BROWNE



Nathaniel Browne of Rehoboth and Providence in 1735 sealed a deed with the crest, "A demi-lion rampant holding an annulet between his paws."

His uncle, James Browne of Wannamoisett,<sup>1</sup> "gentleman," son of John Browne of Plymouth and Rehoboth, Mass., used an armorial seal on a deed dated May 19, 1668. This document is now owned by Mr. Cyrus P. Brown of St. Paul, Minn. James' wife, Lydia, sealed the same deed with a seal bearing a fowl anchor between her initials, "L. B." The arms, which appear on the seal of James Browne, are: "A lion rampant debriused by a bend, chequy,<sup>2</sup> in sinister chief point a crescent." These arms resemble those of the Brownes of Cheshire. Burke gives "Sable a lion rampant argent over all a bendlet compony or and azure"

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<sup>1</sup>Now East Providence, R. I.

<sup>2</sup>At first glance the bend seemed to be charged with crosses, but a careful examination showed that the bend is chequy.

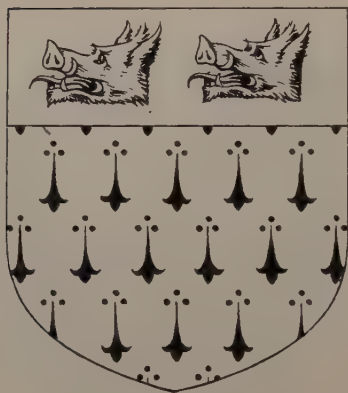


for the Brownes of Chester, and "Argent a lion rampant sable a bend gobonated gules and of the first" for the Brownes of Cheshire.

The changes in the bend were probably added for difference, while the family still resided in England, but the crescent may have been added by James, himself, for he was the second son, and the crescent is the recognized mark of cadency for the second son. The crest is blurred, and at first glance looks like a lion's gamb, but it may be a demi-lion rampant. One of the reasons for believing that the crest is a demi-lion rampant is that three of the descendants of John Browne of Plymouth used that as a seal. John Browne of Attleboro sealed his will in 1742 with the crest "A demi-lion rampant," and Capt. John Browne of Swansea sealed his will in 1752 with the crest of "A demi-lion rampant." A torse appears beneath the lion on these two seals, and on Nathaniel's seal. Impressions of these seals are in the Bristol County Records at Taunton, Mass. Nathaniel Browne was fifth child and third son of John Browne, Jr., and grandson of John Browne of Plymouth. It is possible that he used the annulet "for difference," because he was the fifth child, mistaking its significance of "fifth son" for "fifth child." John Browne of Attleboro, who died in 1742, was son of Capt. John Browne and grandson of Lieut. Joseph Browne, brother of Nathaniel Browne. John Browne of Swansea, who died in 1752, was son of John Browne III, son of John Browne, Junior.

Burke ascribes the crest "A demi-lion rampant argent" to the Brownes of Chester. Benjamin Browne (nephew of Nathaniel and son of Joseph), whose will is dated 1742, used a seal bearing "a rampant lion," but as the lion is neither on a shield nor above a torse, it cannot be considered heraldically as either charge or crest, yet it may well have been derived from the principal charge of the Browne arms, and so should perhaps be considered "an heraldic badge." (Cf. similar usage by Audley, Ferrers, Scales et als. in Palliser's *Historic Badges*, 273, 294 and 327.)

## SANFORD



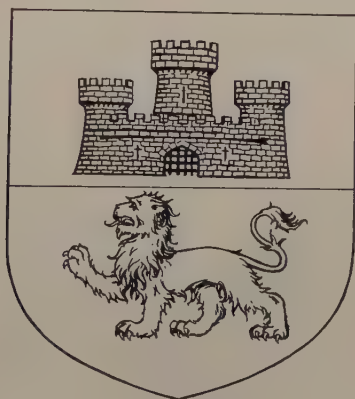
John Sanford, son of the immigrant John Sanford, owned an armorial seal: "Ermine on a chief two boar's heads couped," with the crest "A demi-eagle displayed," which was used by Samuel Wait in 1669 on a document in the handwriting of John Sanford, and which also appears on two other documents in his handwriting dated 1673 and 1676. All three of these manuscripts are in the Town Clerk's office at Portsmouth, R. I. The armorial device on the seal is enclosed by an octagonal border.

John's brother, Governor Peleg Sanford of Rhode Island, used a similar armorial seal on a letter dated August 7, 1699 (Mass. Hist. Soc. *Winthrop Papers* XVIII:24), and a similar, or perhaps the same, armorial seal was used by another brother, Elisha Sanford of Barbados, on a letter dated March 13, 1672/3 (*Winthrop Papers* XVIII:23), but the impression is damaged. Similar arms appear on the gravestone of Mary Sanford, wife of John, who died in 1721, and on the gravestone of William Sanford, who died in 1721, except that owing to a mistake of the stone-cutter, the boar's heads are erased, and also are reversed or contourné. This latter error was doubtless due to the fact that the stone-cutter followed the design of the seal, in-

stead of the design of the seal impression (Her. Jour. III:61, 62). The crest on the gravestone is the same as that on the seal.

Burke gives several Sandford arms in which ermine is the field or lower part of the field, with two boar's in chief, and for the Sandfords of Northumberland "Ermine, on a chief gules, two boar's heads coupéd or."

### HOYLE



The arms of John Hoyle appear upon the broken fragments of two slate gravestones, now preserved in the museum of the Rhode Island Historical Society. At the top of the stone of Richard Hoyle, who died November 3, 1752, appear the arms: "Per fesse in chief a castle, in base a lion passant." No colors are designated. Beneath the arms in small letters is cut the name of John Hoyle, who was the father of Richard.

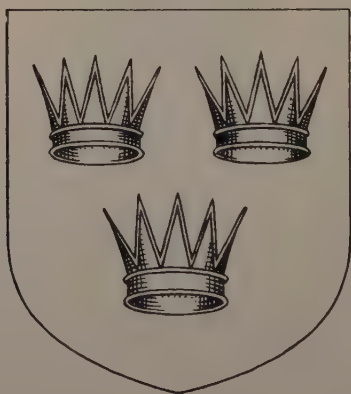
The other stone is so mutilated that the device of the arms is not discernible, but it is presumably the same, as both stones were erected by John Hoyle, who styles himself "gentleman." This stone was erected in memory of various members of John Hoyle's family, the latest date being 1742, the date of the death of his wife, Mary.

John Hoyle, gentleman, also styled "Captain" and "Doctor,"

was born in Bury, in Lancaster, England, April 4, 1685, and removed to Providence, R. I., where he was buried February 11, 1766.

These arms do not appear in Papworth nor in Burke under Hoyle. However, Burke gives two coats of arms for Howell, viz: "Gules three towers triple towered argent" and "Gules three lions passant in pale or, armed and langued sable." It has been suggested that Hoyle might be a derivative from Howell, and that these arms might be a combination of the devices of these two Howell arms.

### GRANT



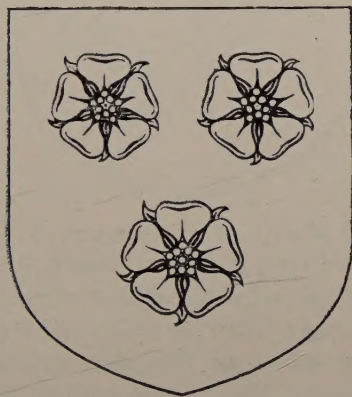
The tombstone of Capt. Sueton Grant of Newport, who died September 27, 1744, in the 43rd year of his age, bears the Grant arms: "Three antique crowns," with the crest "A trunk of an oak tree sprouting out some leaves," and the motto "TE FAVENTE VIREBO." The ancient Grant arms are "Gules three antique (or eastern) crowns or."

The crest, "the trunk of an oak tree sprouting out some leaves with the sun shining thereon proper," with the aforesaid motto is ascribed by Burke to the Grants of Gartinbeg, 1672, but their arms are given with a "border engrailed or" for difference.



Sueton Grant, according to tradition, was the son of Donald Grant of Bellvadoan, Inverness, Scotland, and his wife, Marjorie Stewart.

## YOUNG

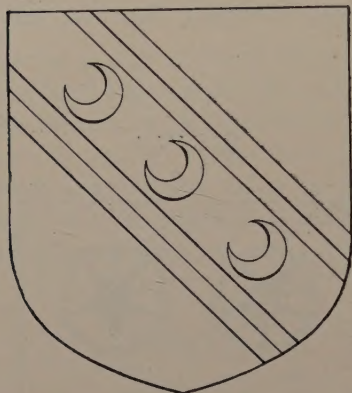


The Young coat of arms, three roses, appears on the armorial tombstones erected in Providence to Gidion Young, who died in 1738; to Archibald Young, who died in 1738, and to their mother, Alice Whipple Young, who died in 1749. They were the sons and wife of Mr. Archibald Young, who was admitted a freeman at Providence in 1740. (*Her. Jour*, III:159, 160.)

Burke gives "Argent three roses gules" for the Youngs of Salop, and "Or three roses gules" for the Youngs of Suffolk and of Worcester, and as a crest for the Youngs of Worcester "a wolf passant sable." Inasmuch as the Youngs of Providence used a wolf passant for a crest, it seems probable that their arms should be blazoned "Or, three roses gules."

The arms of the Youngs of Salop were illustrated in the 1716 edition of Kent's *Heraldry* over twenty years before the arms were cut on the tombstone at Providence, but as Kent mentions no crest, it seems improbable that the arms at Providence were copied from his book.

## DYER



In 1660 Richard Morris of Portsmouth, R. I., sealed a deed (now in the Rhode Island Historical Society library), and used for impressing the seal some convenient object at hand, as was often done in such cases, when the sealer had no seal. His wife, Mary Morris, also sealed the deed, but strangely enough she used an armorial seal: "On a bend cottised three crescents." These arms are not listed under Morris in Burke, and indeed from the fact that Mrs. Morris used an armorial seal, while her husband did not, it would seem quite likely that the seal used was that of someone else who was present at the time of the sealing. The use by sealers of the seals of witnesses to the sealing is a very common occurrence in colonial New England, so that it might well have happened in this case. The witnesses were William Dyre, (alias Dyer) and William Baulstone.

These arms are not listed in Burke under the name of Dyer nor Baulstone, but in the Gore Roll, #29, we find "Argent, on a bend cottised azure, three crescents or" for Gillis (alias Giles) Dyer, Colonel of the Governor's Life-guard and Sheriff of the County of Suffolk, 1713. (*Her. Jour.* I:122.)

Dr. Bowditch comments that "It does seem strange for the wife to seal with borrowed arms and the husband with no arms," and suggests that Mary Morris may have been sister of William Dyre, in which case there would have been an especial appropriateness in her use of the seal.



